

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A genetically modified plant cell ~~which is genetically modified,~~  
comprising the genetic modification leading to the reduction of the activity of one or more  
endogenously occurring: SSIII proteins, occurring endogenously in said plant cell and to the  
~~reduction of the activity of one or more BEI proteins, which occur endogenously in said~~  
~~plant cell and to the reduction of the activity of one or more BEII proteins which occur~~  
~~endogenously~~ in said plant cell in comparison to corresponding plant cells, of wild-type  
plants, which have not been genetically modified,  
wherein said genetically modified plant cell synthesizes a modified starch,  
comprising starch which after gelatinization of a 6% suspension in water forms a gel with  
a gel strength that is increased by at least 300% in comparison with the gel strength of  
starch extracted from corresponding plant cells, of wild-type plants, which have not been  
genetically modified.
2. (Previously Presented) A plant cell according to Claim 1, wherein said genetic modification  
comprises the introduction of one or more foreign nucleic acid molecules whose presence  
and/or expression leads to the reduction of the activity of one or more SSIII, BEI and BEII  
proteins occurring in the plant cell in comparison with corresponding plant cells, of wild-  
type plants, which have not been genetically modified.
3. (Previously Presented) A plant comprising plant cells according to Claim 1.
4. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a genetically modified plant, comprising:
  - a) genetically modifying a plant cell, said genetic modification leading to the reduction  
of the activity of one or more endogenously occurring: SSIII proteins, which occur  
endogenously in the plant cell and to the reduction of the activity of one or more BEI  
proteins, which occur endogenously in the plant cell and to the reduction of the activity of  
~~one or more BEII proteins which occur endogenously in the plant cell, in comparison~~

with corresponding plant cells, of wild-type plants, which have not been genetically modified;

b) regenerating a plant from, or using, said plant cell generated in accordance with a); and

c) optionally generating further plants from said plant generated in accordance with step b);

wherein said genetically modified plant cell synthesizes a modified starch, which starch after gelatinization of a 6% suspension in water forms a gel with a gel strength that is increased by at least 300% in comparison with the gel strength of starch extracted from corresponding plant cells, of wild-type plants, which have not been genetically modified.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a transgenic plant according to Claim 4 which synthesizes a modified starch, comprising

a) genetically modifying a plant cell by introducing one or more foreign nucleic acid molecules whose presence and/or expression leads to the reduction of the activity of ~~in~~ ~~each case~~ at least one SSIII, BEI<sub>1</sub> and BEII protein in comparison with corresponding wild-type plant cells which have not been genetically modified;

b) regenerating a plant from, or using, said cell generated in accordance with a); and

c) optionally generating further plants from said plants generated in accordance with step b).

6. (Previously Presented) A plant according to Claim 3, wherein said plant is a starch-storing plant.

7. (Previously Presented) A plant according to Claim 6, wherein said plant is a potato plant.

8. (Previously Presented) Propagation material of plants according to Claim 3.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for generating genetically modified plant cells[[,]] comprising genetically modifying a plant cell by using one or more nucleic acid molecules which encode proteins with the enzymatic activity of at least one SSIII, ~~at least one~~ BEI and/or ~~at least one~~ BEII protein or their fragments for the generation of plant cells according to Claim 1.
10. (Previously Presented) Starch obtained from plant cells according to Claim 1.
11. (Previously Presented) Starch according to Claim 10, wherein said starch is a potato starch.
12. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a starch, comprising extracting said starch from a plant cell according to Claim 1.
13. (Previously Presented) Starch obtained by the method according to Claim 12.
14. (Previously Presented) A method for modifying the starch of a plant, comprising generating a plant according to Claim 3 and obtaining starch from said plant or starch-containing parts thereof.
15. (Previously Added) A plant obtainable by the method according to Claim 4, wherein said plant is a starch-storing plant.
16. (Previously Added) Propagation material of plants according to Claim 15.
17. (Previously Added) Starch obtained from a plant according to Claim 15.
18. (Previously Added) Starch according to Claim 17, wherein said starch is a potato starch.
19. (Previously Added) A method for producing a starch, comprising extracting said starch from a plant according to Claim 15.

20. (Previously Added) A method for modifying the starch of a plant, comprising generating a plant according to Claim 15 and obtaining starch from said plant or starch-containing parts thereof.
21. (Currently Amended) A method for generating genetically modified plants[[,]] comprising genetically modifying a plant cell by using one or more nucleic acid molecules which encode proteins with the enzymatic activity of at least one SSIII, ~~at least one~~ BEI and/or ~~at least one~~ BEII protein or their fragments for the generation of plants according to Claim 15.